

## Peter Marshall

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**Could you give a brief, personal introduction and to your practice?**

*BDP est. 1961, this year AJ Top 100 ranked No 2. Employs circa 1000 architects, designers, engineers. Multi-disciplinary teams based in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Bristol, Sheffield, Delhi, Rotterdam, Mena, Shanghai, Singapore and Toronto.*

**Could you describe three top skills you look for from your graduate candidates?**

- 1. Excellent drawing skills, including, Rhino, Revit, Autocad.*
- 2. Excellent presentation skills, In Design, Enscape, Twin Motion or similar.*
- 3. Be a team worker, demonstrate ability to understand and support the senior designers in a team.*

**What personal attitudes / characteristics do you seek from your graduate candidates?**

*Good verbal and written communication in both English and Chinese.  
Ability to listen, understand the brief, ask questions when confused or things are not clear.  
Bring enthusiasm and commitment into the studio.  
Be accurate and check all personal work before presenting to senior designers.*

**What are your pet hates when receiving portfolios and during interviews?**

*No preparation.*

*Too much general talking up front, after a short introduction let the drawings and presentation speak for itself.*

*Keep to a well prepared ppt or similar slide show, plug in to the big screen and quickly explain the key points.*

**When reviewing a portfolio, is there anything you specifically look for? How would you suggest candidate's format these?**

*Put the strong images and drawings at the front, don't hide deep in the folder.*

*Maximise the strong images and drawings and diagrams, make sure the information is clear and the correct scale.*

**When reviewing a CV, what advice would you offer a candidate in making these effective?**

*Not too long.*

*2 sides A4*

*Make graphically strong, design the format to represent your personality.*

*Clear points to summarise; achievements, education, skills, any work experience.*

**Should a candidate be fortunate enough to reach interview, what are the typical question you always ask?**

*To explain the project design process.*

*Is all the work self-prepared, or teamwork, be honest and clear about this.*

*Explain the image and drawing process, the software used, demonstrate strong skills.*

**If you could offer one single piece of advice to graduate candidates, what would it be?**

*Carefully prepare your presentation file to be visually strong, not too long and summarise your main focus of the design study.*

*Remember, its all work-in-progress, so explain where and when things did not go to plan.*